



Mission: To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

INTERCOM

Social Investment News

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Early Learning

NCC's concern for the education of youth has intensified. Why? Too many of our youth have been "graduated" from local schools unprepared for further education or for the job market.

Workforce Development and Gateway to Work, NCC programs, have been training many of these young adults for several years. G.E.D., specific work skills, basic skills, and life skills are included in their curricula. It is not enough! NCC has recognized the need to change the pattern of wasted years in elementary and secondary schools.

The key to rebuilding inner city neighborhoods lies within an educational infrastructure that provides residents the opportunity to make a life, to make a living, and to make a difference.

Ergo, NCC's latest initiatives

- ▶ **September 1999 --
New Horizons Charter School**
- 500 students in K-5

- First new public school built in New Jersey in 25 years
- Stringent Code of Civility and Character Education Program
- Academic skills mastered in structured sequence
- Significant improved test scores especially among younger students
- High degree of parent and student satisfaction with academic outcomes
- Flourishing after-school program
- School year – 200 days 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

▶ **March 2001--
Community Hills Early
Learning Center**

- 180 children – 6 weeks to kindergarten
- Family education center – low income families and children in Newark
- Full day childcare services for infants
- Special schedule for Infant/Waddler/Toddler Program

- Training site for early childhood educators
- Multicultural, intergenerational, bilingual staff
- Community Hills homeowners are 206 working families (\$18,000 - \$25,000 income)
- "Smart wired" for parent access to Center.



► September 2001--
Lady Liberty Academy Charter School

- 300 students in K-8
- Emphasis on math, science, technology
- Unifying themes: building community, communication, critical thinking, information gathering, processing and analyzing, problem solving, and application of technological tools
- Curriculum planning with Fairleigh Dickinson University and New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).
- Students will have access to NJIT campus, facilities, and educational opportunities

Additionally, NCC is committed to the following:

- Strengthen after-school programs for local residents and St. Rose students – make homework and study a priority
- Continue summer programs using the successful Groton-Cunningham Reading Method for dyslexia youth
- Maintain relationship with Fairleigh Dickinson University professors who work with

students who have specific learning problems

- Resume special training for teachers of reading
- Regular updating of St. Rose of Lima School technology lab



New Horizons Charter School Kindergarten



Students going to class at Lady Liberty Charter School



Community Hills Early Learning Center Classroom

Social Investment

NCC Charter Schools with their strong curricula and codes of conduct will make a difference.

Please help NCC to improve the statistics in Newark—

- Estimated – only 44% of teenagers graduate from high school
- Estimated – 135,000 of 778,206 residents of Newark (and contiguous urban communities) are functionally illiterate adults
- Four times the incidence of tuberculosis than state average
- Second highest unemployment rate among 77 largest cities in nation – 14.7%
- Persons below poverty level – 26.3%

Your prayers and investments are greatly appreciated. Together we could make a difference.

Return on your investment is 8%.



Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be achieved by understanding.

Albert Einstein

Family Service Bureau (FSB)

Success is at hand for 53 year old Tyrone Smith. He was referred to FSB by another agency. Tyrone abused alcohol, was devoid of motivation, and was physically unkempt. His wife had thrown him out; four of his six children were in jail for selling drugs; he did odd jobs in the neighborhood to earn money to feed his habit. Tyrone had not held a regular job in years. He simply did not care.

About the time of his fourth session with FSB, Tyrone's attitude and motivational levels changed as well as his concern for personal hygiene and appearance. He wants to work. He wants to focus on repairing his relationship with his family.

As a result of his active participation in AA, Tyrone recognizes his responsibilities for his problems. With regular therapy and case management services, Tyrone will be encouraged to continue to move in a positive direction, one day at a time.

With a little bit of luck, continued FSB support, and a lot of prayer, Tyrone will recover completely.

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Denise Baker-Bright

In 1986 Ms. Baker-Bright came to NCC to work as a Certified Nurse's Aide in NCC Extended Care Facility (ECF). Since then Denise has moved from Activities Assistant to Coordinator to her present position as Activities and Volunteers Director in ECF. She is committed to her senior residents and her work typifies the NCC Mission ... to improve the quality of their lives...

Denise was born, raised, and educated in East Orange. She attended Essex County College where she earned an Associate Degree in Social Work. Her long list of certifications includes the following: National Certification Council for Activity Professional, CPR certification, Certification in Sanitary Food Handling, etc. Denise is affiliated with the New Jersey Activity Professional Association and Adult Day Service Activities Professionals.

In addition to becoming certified in as many areas as possible for helping seniors, Denise has a happy personal life. She is married. Her three children, Angie, Rakeem, and Saquan are in their 20's and are married and working. They gave her two grandchildren.

In relating accounts of good things that happen at ECF, Denise mentioned two especially heart-warming stories.

A young man in his 30's, **James Adams** came to ECF with multiple physical and psychological problems. James needed a great deal of care and attention. He is healing slowly and remains in a wheelchair. However, his

physical dependence did not deter him from volunteering to run the gift shop. James Adams is becoming a productive member of society who cares about himself and others and has found a way to say, Thank you.

Calvin Venable is a deacon in the Solid Rock Baptist Church whose wife resides in ECF. For the nine years he has been daily visiting his wife, Calvin has included other residents as well. He gives regular Bible Study classes. Weather permitting Calvin works in the vegetable garden which he helped the ambulatory residents to plant. Calvin Venable has also found a way to say, Thank you.

According to her co-workers, Denise is a people-person who is creative and energetic. She has unusually good rapport with her staff of six whom she appreciates and respects. Also, Denise is a tireless worker and morale booster for the annual NCC Festival/Parade. She is a real team player giving credit where it is due.

Denise enjoys and has a great talent for singing. She is a member of the Gospel Choir in New Hope Baptist Church in East Orange. With the determination to make the best of things, Denise is sure that if you "keep the faith and talk to God, all will be well"



True peace... is still the result of the harmony built into human society by its Divine Founder, and which can be realized by men as the thirst for ever greater justice, based on the firm determination to respect the liberty and dignity of people.
Pope Paul VI